

CURRENT LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1 1. (Withdrawn) A computer-implemented method comprising:
  - 2 assigning information stored on a computer a plurality of clearance levels;
  - 3 assigning each smart badge within a set of smart badges one of the clearance levels;
  - 4 using a wireless beacon to detect which smart badges are located within a predefined
  - 5 boundary;
  - 6 identifying a lowest clearance level assigned to the smart badges within the boundary;
  - 7 and
  - 8 providing access to that sub-set of the information having a clearance level no higher than
  - 9 the lowest identified clearance level.
- 1 2. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
  - 2 defining those smart badges within the boundary as a set of visible smart badges; and
  - 3 updating the set of visible smart badges in response to a change in smart badge visibility
  - 4 status.
- 1 3. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
  - 2 recalculating the lowest clearance level in response to the change in smart badge
  - 3 visibility status.
- 1 4. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
  - 2 recording the smart badge visibility status of each smart badge within an activity log.
- 1 5. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein providing includes:
  - 2 providing access to smart badge wearers assigned to the smart badges.
- 1 6. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 2 further comprising:
  - 2 preventing access to the information when the smart badge visibility status is set to
  - 3 invisible for a predetermined timeout.

1      7.     (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
2               writing data items to the smart badges.

1      8.     (Withdrawn) The method of claim 7 further comprising:  
2               pre-reading the data items from the smart badges during idle periods.

1      9.     (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising  
2               defining a badge removal confidence level indicating whether each smart badge has been  
3               continuously worn by corresponding assigned smart badge wearers.

1      10.    (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 further comprising:  
2               assigning an expiration period to each of the smart badges; and  
3               de-authenticating and erasing all data stored on a smart badge whose expiration period  
4               has been exceeded.

1      11.    (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1 wherein the using element includes:  
2               configuring the predefined boundary by varying a sensitivity level of the wireless beacon.

1       12. (Withdrawn) A method for context-aware computer management comprising:  
2              assigning database information a plurality of clearance levels;  
3              assigning each smart badge within a set of smart badges one of the clearance levels;  
4              using a wireless beacon to detect which smart badges are located within a predefined  
5       physical boundary;  
6              identifying a lowest clearance level assigned to the smart badges within the boundary;  
7              providing access to that sub-set of the database information having a clearance level no  
8       higher than the lowest identified clearance level on a computer located within the predefined  
9       physical boundary;  
10             defining those smart badges within the boundary as a set of visible smart badges;  
11             updating the set of visible smart badges in response to a change in smart badge visibility  
12       status; and  
13             recalculating the lowest clearance level in response to the change in smart badge  
14       visibility status.

1       13. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable medium embodying computer program code  
2       for context-aware computer management, comprising:  
3              assigning database information a plurality of clearance levels;  
4              assigning each smart badge within a set of smart badges one of the clearance levels;  
5              using a wireless beacon to detect which smart badges are located within a predefined  
6       physical boundary;  
7              identifying a lowest clearance level assigned to the smart badges within the boundary;  
8       and  
9              providing access to that sub-set of the database information having a clearance level no  
10      higher than the lowest identified clearance level on a computer located within the predefined  
11      physical boundary.

1       14. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 13 further comprising:  
2              defining those smart badges within the boundary as a set of visible smart badges; and  
3              updating the set of visible smart badges in response to a change in smart badge visibility  
4       status.

1 15. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 further comprising:  
2       recalculating the lowest clearance level in response to the change in smart badge  
3       visibility status.

1 16. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 13 wherein providing  
2       includes:  
3       providing access to the database information to smart badge wearers assigned to the  
4       smart badges.

1 17. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 14 further comprising:  
2       preventing access to the database when the smart badge visibility status is set to invisible  
3       for a predetermined timeout.

1 18. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 13 further comprising  
2       defining a badge removal confidence level indicating whether each smart badge has been  
3       continuously worn by corresponding assigned smart badge wearers.

1 19. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 13 further comprising:  
2       assigning an expiration period to each of the smart badges; and  
3       de-authenticating and erasing all data stored on a smart badge whose expiration period  
4       has been exceeded.

1       20. (Withdrawn) A system for context-aware computer management comprising:  
2           means for assigning database information a plurality of clearance levels;  
3           means for assigning each smart badge within a set of smart badges one of the clearance  
4       levels;  
5           means for using a wireless beacon to detect which smart badges are located within a  
6       predefined physical boundary;  
7           means for identifying a lowest clearance level assigned to the smart badges within the  
8       boundary;  
9           means for providing access to that sub-set of the database information having a clearance  
10      level no higher than the lowest identified clearance level on a computer located within the  
11      predefined physical boundary;  
12        means for defining those smart badges within the boundary as a set of visible smart  
13      badges;  
14        means for updating the set of visible smart badges in response to a change in smart badge  
15      visibility status; and  
16        means for recalculating the lowest clearance level in response to the change in smart  
17      badge visibility status.

1       21. (Previously Presented) A system for context-aware computer management comprising:  
2           a database, including information differentiated by a plurality of clearance levels;  
3           a first wireless beacon;  
4           a set of smart badges, detected by the first beacon to be within a predefined boundary,  
5      each badge assigned one of the clearance levels;  
6           a computer located within the boundary;  
7           a system service module, coupled to the beacon, for identifying a lowest clearance level  
8      assigned to the smart badges within the boundary; and  
9           a software application, coupled to the service module and the database, for providing  
10     access to that sub-set of the information within the database having a clearance level no higher  
11     than the lowest identified clearance level on the computer.

1 22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the first beacon includes:  
2 a wide angle RF beacon.

1 23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, further comprising:  
2 a second diffuse IR beacon, coupled to the service module, limited to detecting smart  
3 badges within the predefined boundary.

1 24. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the smart badges include:  
2 biometric sensors for detecting when a smart badge has been removed from an assigned  
3 smart badge wearer.

1 25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the service module  
2 defines those smart badges within the boundary as a set of visible smart badges, and  
3 recalculates the lowest clearance level in response to a change in a visibility status.

1 26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the application logs smart badge  
2 wearers assigned to visible smart badges onto the computer.

1 27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein providing access to the sub-set of  
2 information comprises providing access to the sub-set of information stored on the computer  
3 located within the predefined boundary.

1 28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless beacon comprises a first  
2 wireless beacon to communicate with the smart badges, the method further comprising:  
3 using a second wireless beacon to communicate with the smart badges,  
4 wherein detecting which smart badges are located within the predefined boundary is  
5 based on the first and second wireless beacons.

1 29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 28, wherein using the second wireless beacon  
2 comprises using the second wireless beacon to communicate with smart badges within the  
3 predefined boundary and to communicate with smart badges outside the predefined boundary  
4 through one or more blocking objects defining the predefined boundary, and

5         using the first wireless beacon comprises using the first wireless beacon to communicate  
6 with smart badges within the predefined boundary, wherein the first wireless beacon is blocked  
7 from communicating with smart badges outside the predefined boundary by the one or more  
8 blocking objects.

1 30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein using the first wireless beacon comprises  
2 using an infrared beacon, and wherein using the second wireless beacon comprises using a radio  
3 frequency beacon.

1 31. (Withdrawn) An article comprising a computer-usuable medium containing program code  
2 that when executed cause a computer to:

3         store plural sub-sets of information, each sub-set of information associated with one of  
4 plural clearance levels;

5         use at least a first wireless beacon to communicate with plural badges within a predefined  
6 region, each of the plural badges associated with one of the plural clearance levels;

7         determine a lowest clearance level from among the clearance levels associated with the  
8 badges in the predefined region; and

9         provide access to one or more sub-sets of the information having one or more respective  
10 clearance levels no higher than the determined lowest clearance level.

1 32. (Withdrawn) The article of claim 31, wherein providing access to the one or more  
2 sub-sets of the information comprises displaying the one or more sub-sets of the information  
3 having the one or more respective clearance levels no higher than the determined lowest  
4 clearance level.

1 33. (Withdrawn) The article of claim 31, wherein the program code when executed cause the  
2 computer to further:

3       use a second wireless beacon to communicate with the plural badges in the predefined  
4 region and to communicate with one or more badges outside the predefined region,

5       wherein the first wireless beacon is able to communicate with the plural badges within  
6 the predefined region but is unable to communicate with the one or more badges outside the  
7 predefined region; and

8       determining the badges that are within the predefined region based on the first and second  
9 wireless beacons.

1 34. (Withdrawn) The article of claim 31, wherein the program code when executed cause the  
2 computer to further:

3       receive a parameter from each of the badges, the parameter indicating a confidence level  
4 that the respective badge has been worn continuously by a user.

1 35. (Withdrawn) The article of claim 31, wherein the program code when executed cause the  
2 computer to further:

3       re-determine the lowest clearance level as badges enter or leave the predefined region.

1 36. (Withdrawn) A system comprising:

2       storage to store sub-sets of information associated with corresponding plural clearance  
3 levels;

4       a first wireless beacon to communicate wirelessly with badges within a predefined  
5 region, each of the badges associated with one of the plural clearance levels;

6       a module to identify a lowest clearance level from among the clearance levels of the  
7 badges within the predefined region; and

8       software to provide access to one or more sub-sets of information in the storage having  
9 one or more clearance levels no higher than the identified lowest clearance level.

1    37. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 36, further comprising:  
2                a second wireless beacon to communicate wirelessly with badges within the predefined  
3                region and at least one badge outside the predefined region,  
4                wherein the first wireless beacon is unable to communicate with the at least one badge  
5                outside the predefined region,  
6                the module to detect the badges that are within the predefined region based on the first  
7                and second wireless beacons.

1    38. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 37, wherein the second wireless beacon comprises a  
2                radio frequency beacon, and the first wireless beacon comprises an infrared beacon.